DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 102 928 HE 006 321

TITLE	The New England Regional Student Program Annual Report 1974-75.
INSTITUTION	New England Board of Higher Education, Wellesley, Mass.
PUB DATE	75
NOTE	21p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.76 HC-$1.58 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	Annual Reports; *Educational Programs; Financial Policy; *Higher Education; *Interinstitutional Cooperation; Program Descriptions; *Regional Planning; Resident Students; State Programs; *Statewide Planning

ABSTRACT

The aim of the Regional Student Program is to assure access by qualified New England residents to academic programs not available in their own state that are offered at other New England public institutions of higher education. Students participating in the program are given preference in admissions and pay only the in-state tuition rate. The range of programs offered--455 undergraduate programs, 270 graduate programs--and the absence of burdensome administrative detail permit the New England resident an almost unlimited choice of academic offerings of high quality at low cost. Two disturbing aspects of the programs's development for 1974 are discussed in this annual report: (1) The increased popularity of some offerings in the program led some states to withdraw those programs so that more spaces would be available for their own residents. (2) Regional Student Program enrollment at four-year colleges is smaller than at universities and community colleges. Other parts of the program discussed include: the benefits, other 1974 developments, enrollment growth and program growth, and state participation. Appendixes include statistical tables that accompany the text. (Author/PG)

ED102928

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM
ANNUAL REPORT 1974-75

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

HE006321

New England Board of Higher Education
40 Grove Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

FOREWORD

This Annual Report represents a departure from the former practice of issuing an Enrollment Report which basically contained statistics on the program's enrollment. This year we have attempted to explain key developments of the Regional Student Program over the past year, as well as to summarize the statistics involved.

A breakdown of enrollment by degree programs and institutions may be obtained by writing to the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), 40 Grove Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181.

I would like to express my appreciation to the institutional representatives of the Regional Student Program who collected and transmitted the enrollment statistics to NEBHE.

My thanks, also, to NEBHE staff members Sally M. Kennedy and Jeanne Hunt for their assistance with the preparation of this report.

Rodney J. Hinkle
Program Director

THE PROGRAM

Begun in 1948 on an informal basis by a few states and formalized through a Compact in 1955 by all New England states, the New England Regional Student Program has grown from 302 students in its first year of operation (1958) to 2,950 in 1975.

The aim of the Regional Student Program is simple and commendable: to assure access by qualified New England residents to academic programs not available in their own state which are offered at other New England public institutions of higher education. Students participating in the program are given preference in admissions and pay only the in-state tuition rate. The range of programs offered — 455 undergraduate programs, 270 graduate programs — and the absence of burdensome administrative detail permit the New England resident an almost unlimited choice of academic offerings of high quality at low cost. The New England Board of Higher Education has also initiated contracts with several private and public universities to guarantee spaces for New England residents in such fields as optometry, dentistry, medicine, and physical and occupational therapy.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BENEFITS

As well as the cost savings to the participating student represented by the difference between the in-state and out-of-state tuition rate, there are cost benefits to states.

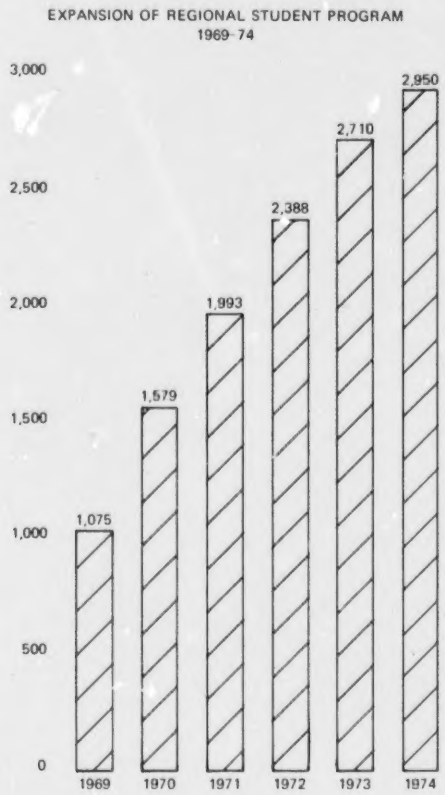
The exporting state (the student's state of residence) saves the costs which would be incurred if expensive programs were to be duplicated in every state.

The importing state (the state in which the student studies) benefits from lower costs of education per student when optimum enrollments can be assured in its expensive academic programs. The student, the institution and the state benefit from the increased diversity of student populations made possible by the interstate movement of people within the region.

1974 DEVELOPMENTS

Although the expansion of the Regional Student Program over the past five years (Fig. 1) has been consistent, there have been some disturbing aspects to the Program's development. Two of these concerns were addressed in 1974.

Figure 1



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The increased popularity of some offerings in the Program led some states to withdraw those programs so that more spaces would be available for their own residents. Students of other New England states no longer had access to those degree programs at low in-state tuition rates. In response to that situation, the New England Governors' Conference in November 1973 requested that the New England Board of Higher Education study the "degree program withdrawal problem" and propose ways to ensure the continued and orderly expansion of the Regional Student Program.

After a one year study, the Advisory Committee to the Regional Student Program made the following recommendations to the New England Governors' Conference: that past degree program withdrawal decisions be re-examined; that two years advance notice be supplied for any future program withdrawal; and that participating institutions attempt to make available to qualified residents of eligible states at least 20 percent of all openings in academic programs currently offered under the Regional Student Program.

These recommendations were endorsed at the December 19, 1974 Governors' Conference in Newport, Rhode Island. In addition, the governors requested that NEBHE study and make recommendations on

the feasibility of a "balance of payments" plan, whereby any imbalance in the interstate flow of students would be offset by a transfer of money from the creditor state to the debtor state.*

The second problem addressed during the year is illustrated in Figure 2. Regional Student Program enrollment at four year colleges is smaller than at universities and community colleges Despite the fact that four year colleges joined the Program in 1972, regional students represent only 0.25 percent of all full time degree credit enrollment at four year colleges, the lowest percentage of participation of any sector. To increase the vitality of the Regional Student Program at four year colleges, the New England Board of Higher Education proposed to the states that a student's eligibility for study in a Regional Student program at a four year college be altered to conform with the enrollment requirements currently governing two year colleges. Because of this change, regional student enrollment at a four year college is available if the desired program is not available at a participating in-state institution or if the out-of-state school is located closer to the home of the student than any in-state four year college. To date, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island have adopted this more flexible eligibility standard.

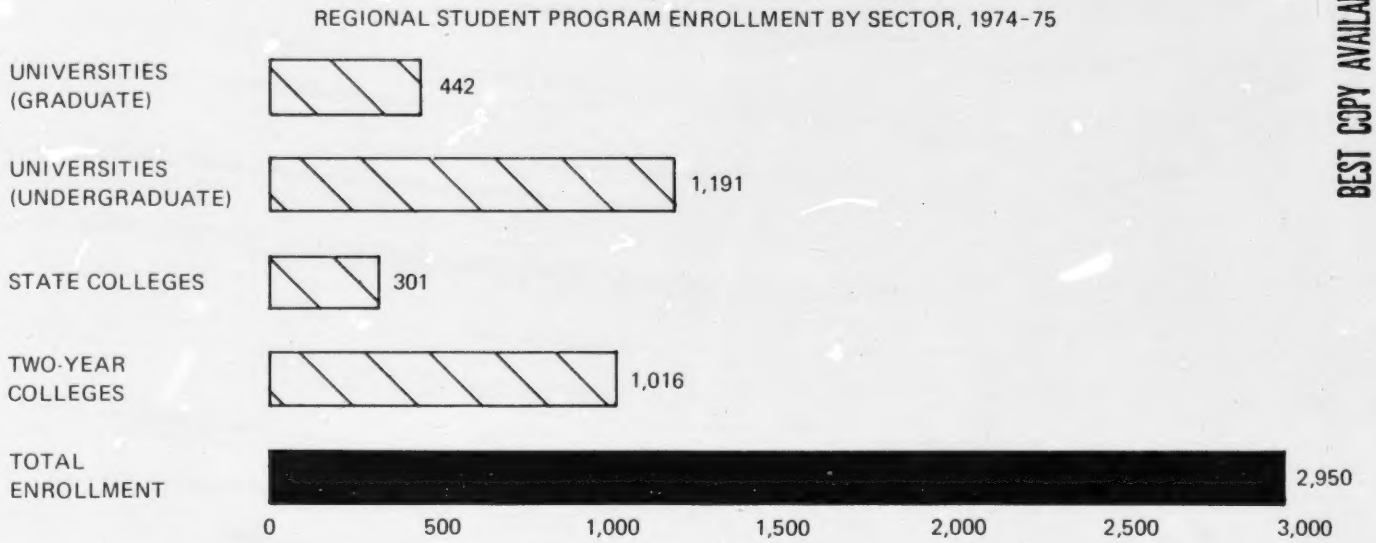
*See Appendix B

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The continued growth of the Regional Student Program will be assured by measures such as those outlined, so that high quality education at low cost will remain available to New England residents.

NERSP Advisory Committee in Session

Figure 2



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NERSP Advisory Committee members (left to right): Senator John C. Revens, Jr., Rhode Island; William Dwyer, Massachusetts; Eugene Savage, New Hampshire; Wayne Patterson, Vermont; and Donald Nicoll, the Land-Grant Universities.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ENROLLMENT GROWTH

While the Regional Student Program continued its growth in 1974-75, its rate of expansion slowed somewhat from previous years. Since 1970, the annual average increase in enrollment has been 23 percent. The addition of 240 students brings the total enrollment in regional programs to 2,950 — an increase of nine percent over last year. Including 322 students enrolled under regional health science profession contracts in 1974-75,* total regional student enrollment experienced an 11 percent increase in 1974.

PROGRAM GROWTH

In 1974-75 students paid only the in-state tuition rate in 498 programs under the Regional Student Program. Of this number, 392 programs were at the undergraduate level compared to 337 undergraduate programs last year. Under health science profession contracts administered by NEBHE, programs were offered in medicine, dentristry, occupational and physical therapy and optometry, which was added to the program in 1974.

*See Appendix A

SECTORAL GROWTH

Enrollment in all sectors except graduate level programs grew in 1974-75. The greatest increase occurred in university undergraduate enrollment.

Figure 3

REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM ENROLLMENT
By Sectors
1973-74 – 1974-75

	1973-74	*1974-75*	*Change*
University Graduate	670	442	-228[a]
University Undergraduate	960	1,191	+231
Four Year Colleges	190	301	+111
Two Year Colleges	890	1,016	+126
Sub Total	2,710	2,950	+240
Contracts	244	322	+ 78
TOTAL	2,954	3,272	+318

[a]The decrease in graduate level enrollment is partially explained by the inability of one state university last year to supply accurate figures and of another state university to identify regional graduate students for this year.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

STATE PARTICIPATION

Figure 4 compares the ranking of New England states in terms of total enrollment in public institutions to their participation in the Regional Student Program.

Figure 4

RANK ORDER COMPARISON BY STATES
OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL ENROLLMENT AND
NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT
PROGRAM ENROLLMENT
1974-75

Total Public Enrollment (1973)		*INFLOW Number of residents of other N.E. states studying under NERSP in public institutions of state*		*OUTFLOW Number of residents of state studying at public institutions in other N.E. states under NERSP*	
MA	139,469	MA	1,031	MA	883
CT	83,910	CT	524	CT	734
RI	29,989	RI	415	NH	465
ME	27,703	ME	413	RI	409
NH	18,788	VT	290	ME	252
VT	16,157	NH	277	VT	207
	316,016		2,950		2,950

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The net effects of student enrollment under the Regional Student Program can be determined from Figure 5. Two states, Connecticut and New Hampshire, are net exporters of regional students. Three states, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Maine, are net importers. Rhode Island is essentially in balance.

Figure 5

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE STUDENTS ATTENDING NEW ENGLAND TWO-YEAR INSTITUTES, STATE COLLEGES, AND STATE UNIVERSITIES
1974-75

State of Attendance	*State of Residence*						*Attendance Totals*
	CT	*ME*	*MA*	*NH*	*RI*	*VT*	
Connecticut	–	55	270	53	120	26	524
Maine	99	–	185	60	35	34	413
Massachusetts	415	49	–	286	206	75	1,031
New Hampshire	57	57	75	–	31	57	277
Rhode Island	60	62	254	24	–	15	415
Vermont	103	29	99	42	17	–	290
Residence Totals	734	252	883	465	409	207	2,950

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

APPENDIX A

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM STUDENTS ATTENDING NEW ENGLAND TWO-YEAR COLLEGES AND INSTITUTES 1974-75

State of Attendance	*State of Residence*						*Attendance Totals*
	CT	*ME*	*MA*	*NH*	*RI*	*VT*	
Connecticut	–	5	34	4	42	3	88
Maine	10	–	25	5	1	12	53
Massachusetts	208	21	–	207	134	46	616
New Hampshire	7	25	34	–	–	49	115
Rhode Island	3	–	100	1	–	1	105
Vermont	7	3	10	18	1	–	39
Residence Totals	235	54	203	235	178	111	1,016

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ATTENDING NEW ENGLAND STATE COLLEGES 1974-75

State of Attendance	*State of Residence* CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	*Attendance Totals*
Connecticut	–	2	7	1	3	1	14
Maine	Not Applicable						
Massachusetts	53	3	–	31	13	7	107
New Hampshire	4	1	7	–	1	3	16
Rhode Island	2	–	7	–	–	1	10
Vermont	73	14	49	12	6	–	154
Residence Totals	132	20	70	44	23	12	301

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SIX STATE UNIVERSITIES, LOWELL TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSITY
1974-75

State of Attendance	*State of Residence* CT	ME	MA	NH	RI	VT	*Attendance Totals*
Connecticut	–	32	108	28	14	9	191
Maine	85	–	139	32	30	14	300
Massachusetts*							
Lowell Technological Institute	36	8	–	22	10	3	79
Southeastern Mass. University	4	–	–	–	23	–	27
University of Massachusetts	92	12	–	16	21	13	154
New Hampshire	45	26	31	–	30	5	137
Rhode Island	33	60	106	15	–	7	221
Vermont	18	10	35	9	10	–	82
Residence Totals	313	148	419	122	138	51	1,191

*Massachusetts Total 260

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM GRADUATE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SIX STATE UNIVERSITIES, LOWELL TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, AND SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSITY
1974-75

State of Attendance	*State of Residence*						*Attendance Totals*
	CT	*ME*	*MA*	*NH*	*RI*	*VT*	
Connecticut	–	–	121	20	61	13	231
Maine	4	16	21	23	4	8	60
Massachusetts*							
Lowell Technological Institute	1	–	–	2	–	–	3
Southeastern Mass. University	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
University of Massachusetts	21	5	–	8	5	6	45
New Hampshire	1	5	3	–	–	–	9
Rhode Island	22	2	41	8	–	6	79
Vermont	5	2	5	3	–	–	15
Residence Totals	54	30	191	64	70	33	442

*Massechusetts Total 48

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE STUDENTS ATTENDING NEW ENGLAND TWO-YEAR INSTITUTES, STATE COLLEGES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES
1970-74

In- and Out- Migration by State

	1970		*1971*		*1972*		*1973*		*1974*	
	in	*out*	*in*	*out*	*in*	*out*	*in*	*out*	*in*	*out*
Connecticut	382	352	525	375	617	536	592	648	524	734
Maine	101	186	100	228	144	225	237	225	413	252
Massachusetts	519	503	628	655	696	807	846	876	1031	883
New Hampshire	179	248	288	370	289	319	274	381	277	465
Rhode Island	357	148	352	179	451	313	526	398	415	409
Vermont	41	142	100	186	191	188	235	182	290	207
TOTALS:	1579	1579	1993	1993	2388	2388	2710	2710	2950	2950

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ALLIED HEALTH CONTRACTS ENROLLMENT 1974-75

State of Residence	*Dentistry*[1]	*Medicine*[2]	*Occupational Therapy*[3]	*Optometry*[4]	*Physical Therapy*[5]	*Total*
Connecticut				5		5
Maine	25	43				68
Massachusetts		100	43		86	
New Hampshire	Not Applicable					
Rhode Island		20				20
Vermont	Not Applicable					
TOTAL	25	163	43	5	86	322

[1]Maine residents only at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine
[2]Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island residents only at the University of Vermont College of Medicine
[3]Massachusetts residents only at Boston and Tufts Universities
[4]Connecticut residents only at the Massachusetts College of Optometry
[5]Massachusetts residents only at Boston and Northeastern Universites

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

APPENDIX B

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

Governor
THOMAS P. SALMON
of Vermont
Chairman

Governor
MELDRIM THOMSON, JR.
of New Hampshire
Vice Chairman

Governor
THOMAS J. MESKILL
of Connecticut

Governor
KENNETH M. CURTIS
of Maine

Governor
FRANCIS W. SARGENT
of Massachusetts

Governor
PHILIP W. NOEL
of Rhode Island

Chapman Stockford
Executive Director

Suite 4254, Prudential Tower
Boston, Massachusetts 02199

I. THE NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE accepts with appreciation the interim report of the New England Board of Higher Education on the Regional Student Program and commends the Advisory Committee on the Regional Student Program whose efforts this past year are reflected in the report.

II. IN REGARD TO past withdrawals of popular regional programs which precipitated the request by this Conference last year for a one year study of the Regional Student Program, the New England Governors' Conference reiterates its concern that many students in the region continue to be without access to such popular and valuable programs as Occupational and Physical Therapy, and thus urges the New England Board of Higher Education, the appropriate state governing authorities and institutions of higher education to carefully examine these past decisions that have limited regional access to these critical academic programs.

III. MINDFUL OF BOTH the education and economic benefits derived by both New England states and their residents from the Regional Student Program, the New England Governors' Conference requests participating institutions to make available at least 20% of all openings in academic programs currently offered under the Regional Student Program to qualified residents of eligible states.

IV. THE NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE also requests that educational governing boards that believe it necessary to withdraw academic programs under the Regional Student Program extend a two-year advance notice to affected states through the New England Board of Higher Education, and that the New England states have an opportunity to review and comment upon the regional implications of such planned withdrawals and to explore alternative solutions to the proposed withdrawal through a standing committee established by the New England Board of Higher Education.

V. THE NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE requests that it receive, on or before July 31, 1975, a further report of the New England Board of Higher Education on the feasibility of establishing a balance of payments plan or other alternative mechanism to insure that the fiscal impact of the Regional Student Program is shared equitably by all states of the region.

VI. THE NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE also requests that it receive, on or before November 30, 1975, a report from the New England Board of Higher Education on the feasibility of creating a regional manpower projecting capability that could assist states, educational governing boards and institutions of the region on questions of higher education program expansion or retrenchment.

THOMAS P. SALMON
Governor of Vermont

MELDRIM THOMSON, JR.
Governor of New Hampshire

THOMAS J. MESKILL
Governor of Connecticut

KENNETH M. CURTIS
Governor of Maine

FRANCIS W. SARGENT
Governor of Massachusetts

PHILIP W. NOEL
Governor of Rhode Island

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

New England

Regional Student Program Advisory Committee

Joseph M. Cronin, Secretary,
Executive Office of Educational Affairs
Boston, Massachusetts

Benjamin J. Dorsky, President
Maine State Federated Labor Board

William G. Dwyer, President
Massachusetts Board of Regional
Community Colleges

Clyde R. Ingle, Assistant Commissioner of Education
Rhode Island Department of Education

H. B. Jestin, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Central Connecticut State College

Franklin P. Eggert, Graduate Dean
University of Maine

John Mitchel, Vice President
Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Senator John C. Revens, Jr.
Rhode Island

Eugene A. Savage, Director of Admissions
University of New Hampshire

Chapman Stockford, Executive Director
New England Governors' Conference

Ruth O. Truex
Former State Senator
Connecticut

Donald E. Nicoll, Chairman
Land-Grant Universities of
New England

Wayne C. Patterson, Executive Vice President
University of Vermont

Louis Rabineau, Chancellor
Connecticut Commission for
Higher Education